

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY DEPLOYS RAPID RESPONSE TEAM TO LINCOLNTON PLANT**  
*Bosch Tool Corporation Plant's Closure to Affect 229 Workers*

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that the state's Rapid Response Team is being deployed to the Robert Bosch Tool Corporation plant in Lincolnton. The company has announced it is closing manufacturing operations there, which will affect 229 workers. Layoffs are scheduled to begin in April, with the majority expected between June and December.

"I have directed the Rapid Response Team to work with Bosch Tool employees and local employment partners to help these workers either find new jobs or receive additional training so they can remain successful in our competitive economy," said Easley. "Our Rapid Response Team is committed to reducing the amount of time these employees are out of work."

The Commerce Department's Workforce Division has talked with the company to begin determining what services will be needed. An initial meeting with company managers will be held next week; follow-up meetings will then be held with employees.

The Rapid Response Team helps coordinate transitional services for employees who have lost their jobs due to a layoff or facility closure. Services may include job search and placement assistance, career counseling, labor market information and assessment of skills and needs. The team consists of representatives from state and local agencies, including the local workforce development board, the Employment Security Commission and the N.C. Community College System.

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